

KITTITAS COUNTY 4-H HORSE POLICY

Kittitas County 4-H is an informal, educational program for boys and girls that is designed to teach project and life skills, develop new interests, practice democracy and develop character. Instead of just reading about things, 4-H members learn by actually doing various tasks with their projects.

OBJECTIVES OF THE 4-H HORSE PROJECT

1. Learn how to accept responsibility by having a horse to care for regularly.
2. Learn how to feed and care for horses.
3. Learn how to train and handle horses safely.
4. Learn how to take care of equipment.
5. Learn how to cooperate with others by working with other boys and girls in their club.
6. Learn how to keep records and how to use them.
7. Learn how to judge and select horses.
8. Learn how to prepare and give a demonstration so they can show others skills and new ideas that they have learned.
9. Develop appreciation of riding as a safe, healthy, wholesome form of recreation.
10. Develop leadership, self-reliance and sportsmanship through club activities.

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

Requirements for the 4-H Horse Project are as follows:

1. Members must be in the third grade and have reached their 8th birthday by January 1 through those in the 12th grade or who have not reached their 19th birthday before January 1 of the current 4-H year. (October 1 – September 30).

Exception – In animal projects it is left up to the discretion of the leader(s) and parents whether a member can handle such a project. If the leader feels a child is too young, then he/she will be advised to take another project or wait a year before enrolling in an animal project.

2. Age Divisions – apply to current school year or use grade just completed in events through September.

JUNIORS:	3 rd grade through 5 th grade
INTERMEDIATES:	6 th grade through 8 th grade
SENIORS:	9 th grade through 19 years old by January 1 of the current 4-H year

3. The Kittitas County Horse Committee will offer four age divisions/sections – Novice, Junior, Intermediate and Senior. **NOVICE DEFINITION:** First year horse project members showing may choose to show novice class or the regular class in their age division. If they choose to show novice or regular in one class, they must show the same in all classes entered. If novice classes are not offered, then they must show in regular age division. Any exceptions to Novice ruling may be appealed, in writing, to the Horse Committee. If a new member elects to judge as a novice then they will continue as a novice, in contest that offer novice events, throughout the year. Novice members will be required to ride in the novice classes for the whole year. Novices of all ages are required to wear helmets in Showmanship.

4. Have a horse or pony that they can use as a project, (except when approved for the Horseless Horse Project). Stallions over 12 months of age are not permitted in 4-H classes.

5. Have suitable facilities and equipment for the project.

6. Two 4-H members may jointly care for and show one animal. These two 4-H members may not compete in the same class or lot at an event.

7. Select one of the following projects:

GBHG Horseless Horse: *(All members eligible, juniors through seniors)*

- ✓ Develop leadership, initiative, self-reliance, sportsmanship, and other desirable traits of character.
- ✓ Develop an understanding of the responsibilities of managing a horse
- ✓ Develop an appreciation of horseback riding as a healthy and wholesome form of recreation
- ✓ Learn skill in horsemanship and an understanding of the business of breeding, raising, and training horses
- ✓ Increase knowledge of safety precautions to prevent injury to themselves, others, and their mounts
- ✓ Promote greater love for animals and a humane attitude toward them
- ✓ Publication EM4715 Horses are Fun

GBHA Beginning Horsemanship: *(Required for 1st-year Equine project members, juniors through seniors)*

- ✓ Develop an animal care ethic
- ✓ Learn to select, care for, feed, and provide for the health of an animal
- ✓ Develop organizational skills, including judging and recordkeeping
- ✓ Learn to ride, train, and handle a horse safely
- ✓ Develop and use life skills, including decision making, public speaking, teamwork, sportsmanship, respect for others, and community service
- ✓ Learn the value and dignity of work and careers
- ✓ Publication EM4842 Beginning Horsemanship

GBHH Horsemanship Management and Care: *(For all members, juniors through seniors, participating in performance, western games, rodeo, trail, driving, dressage, miniatures [horse and mules], green horse and self-determined. Select the appropriate materials for your Equine project from the following publications)*

- ✓ Develop leadership, initiative, self-reliance, sportsmanship, and other desirable traits of character
- ✓ Develop organizational skills, including judging and record keeping
- ✓ Develop an animal care ethic
- ✓ Learn skill in horsemanship and an understanding of the business of breeding, raising, and training horses
- ✓ Learn to select, care for, feed, and provide for the health of an animal
- ✓ Learn the value of recreational trail riding
- ✓ Learn to ride, train and handle a horse safely
- ✓ Learn the value and dignity of work and careers
- ✓ Publications: EB1612 Feeding the Performance Horse; EM4637 4-H Rodeo Skills; EM4714E Training Horses: Yearling to Five-Year-Old; EM4881 Harness Driving: Manual and rules for Washington State; PNW0488 Hunt Seat and Jumper Manual

Additional Learning Guides:

Horse Science, Unit 2 – (CO-201)
4-H Horse Member Advancement Checklist - (EM2790)
Equestrian Helmet Safety – (EM4849)
Ten Tips for Healthy Horses – (MISC0128)
4-H Horse Contest Guide – (PNW574)
Horse Judging Guide – (PNW575)
The 4-H Horse Project – (PNW587)

8. In Kittitas County, competition is for members rather than parents. All horses are to be cared for and groomed by the exhibitor. In cases where the exhibitors are too young and/or physically incapable of doing the work, assistance by other club members may be provided. These exceptions should be cleared with the club leader or the Division Superintendent. Parents and leaders cannot assist members during Junior Horse Fair competition, except in safety situations.

9. File a horse identification certificate for each horse being carried as a 4-H Horse Project with the County Extension Office by **5:00 p.m., April 30th** to be eligible to exhibit the animal in the Junior Division of the Kittitas County Fair. Certificates need to be signed every year. In the case where a horse, for which a certificate is filed, dies or is injured, making it unable to be shown at the Junior Division Horse Show of the Kittitas County Fair, a horse certificate may be filed on a replacement horse up until **July 1st, at 5:00 p.m.** the new certificate should be accompanied by a veterinarian certification that the original horse is injured and/or a letter as to the reason for the replacement. The replacement horse shall be owned or under lease as prescribed by the Kittitas County 4-H Horse Project. **The member can ride in the local Fair, but cannot go on to ride the replacement horse at State Fair. Hardship cases after July 1st must ride with their number turned.**

A certificate may be filed on an unborn foal that will be a 4-H Project by listing the name of the dam, sire and date of service.

10. Keep a record of their 4-H Horse Project in a 4-H Record Book.

11. All horses must be owned or leased and cared for by the exhibitor 90 days prior to the Kittitas County Junior Horse Fair. Approved Kittitas County Lease forms must be used. If leased, it shall be leased under the following conditions: There shall be a written lease giving the 4-H member full possession and care of the animal for a period of at least April 30 to October 1. The lease shall be signed by the owner of the horse, 4-H member leasing the horse, a parent of the member, and the leader. A copy of the lease is to be filed with the horse certificate.

12. Members are required to participate at a minimum of two county horse judgments to be eligible to compete at the Kittitas County Junior Horse Fair and complete the 4-H year. There will be four age divisions/sections – Novice, Junior, Intermediate and Senior. If a new member elects to judge as a novice then they will continue as a novice, in contests that offer novice events, throughout the year. For intermediate and senior members to be eligible to judge in the state competition, they must judge in at least two county events. The individual's top two scores will be used in the selection.

13. Members are required to give a demonstration in the Horse Project area at the club or county level.

14. The Junior Horse Show of the Kittitas County Fair provides an opportunity for the members to evaluate their progress and accomplishments in the horse project. It should be viewed as more than just another horse show. Members are encouraged to participate in the Kittitas County Junior Horse Fair, but are not required to participate in order to complete their project.

15. Showmanship – It is required that each 4-Her participate in at least one 4-H sponsored showmanship contest. 4-H Horse members enrolled in Beginning Horsemanship and Horsemanship Management and Care horse projects and intermediate and senior members intending to compete to go to State Fair are required to participate in at least one 4-H sponsored showmanship county contest offered throughout the 4-H year.

The member must get permission from both the leader and 4-H Council to be excused for sufficient reason. A physically handicapped member who is unable to complete a showmanship class may have another member assist and/or replace said member in the class at the leader's discretion.

16. A green horse will be identified as a horse under 6 years old that has not been shown in a shank bit. Horses in green horse classes must be ridden, in a smooth snaffle at least 3/8" diameter 1" from ring or a bosal, with two hands used on both reins. Mechanical hackamores or leverage snaffles are not allowed. When split reins are used they must be crossed and both hands must be on both reins. Green horse classes are only open to intermediate and senior 4-H members, which have leader approval. No cross entries with performance classes.

An aged green horse will be identified as a horse 6 years old or older that has not been shown in a shank bit. Horses cannot be shown in aged green horse for more than one year. Same rules apply as green horse classes, as explained above.

17. "First-year" horse members shall not be allowed to show a mare and foal without prior approval of the 4-H Horse Committee. All members choosing to show a mare and foal will have leader's approval and must have an approval sheet submitted. All foals being shown must be halter broke and trained to leave mare and at all times must be in hand or in confinement. Mares must be handled by a competent handler. Either the superintendent or the judge (with the judge's decision overriding in the ring) may excuse a handler for unsafe conditions.

18. All **first year** horse project members are **required** to complete **Level 1, Units #1, 2, and 4** and all **second year** horse project members are **required** to complete **Level 1, Units #3, 5, and 6** of the Horse Quality Assurance and Animal Care program and exhibit the completed form in their record book with the permanent record.

19. **All** Kittitas County 4-H Horse members, parents, and leaders are **required** to read and sign the Commitment to Excellence form at the beginning of the new 4-H year. Members should keep this signed original in their 4-H Record Books with the horse certificates.

20. Equestrian Helmets. All Washington 4-H members and non-member youths participating in all equine projects and activities must wear American Society Testing Materials (ASTM) and Safety Engineering Institute (SEI) approved headgear when riding or driving. The headgear must have a chin strap and be properly fitted. Additionally, all equestrians (including adults) are strongly encouraged to wear protective headgear at all times when riding or working around horses.

21. All-Around Showmanship: First place winners in showmanship are required to participate in All-Around Showmanship (Round Robin) at the Kittitas County Fair. In the event the first place winner cannot participate, the second place winner will move into the vacated position.

22. Horse Committee policies supplement Kittitas County 4-H Policy. Differentiation between Committee and Council policy(ies) shall be resolved by 4-H Leaders Council.

23. Each club will receive two votes up to fourteen members with one extra vote per ten additional members with five votes being the maximum allowed. If a club is not represented the vote will proceed with absent clubs forfeiting their vote. Voting will be based on horse project members only and be established by February 1st (enrollment deadline) and continue for the fiscal year.

24. The intent of horse policy amendments is to improve the youth program for the benefit of all youth members.

- In September it will be announced that anyone having proposed amendments to horse policy should submit said proposal to the Executive Committee at their meeting prior to the regular October Horse Committee meeting. This will be the only opportunity every year to submit changes or amendments to Horse Policy.

- First reading of any proposed amendments to the horse policy will be at the October horse committee meeting.
- Second reading of any proposed amendments to the horse policy will be at the November horse committee meeting.
- Vote on horse policy and any proposed amendments will take place at the January horse committee meeting and will remain in force until the next January.

Horse State Fair Qualifying Criteria

Kittitas County 4-H State Fair Qualifying Guidelines

1. The qualifying shows for Washington State 4-H Fair are the Summer Leaders' Show, the Gaming Show, and the Kittitas County Junior Horse Fair.
2. Qualification is based upon an objective standard applied to all entries:
 - Blue in Showmanship/Blue in Class,
 - Blue in Showmanship/Red in Class,
 - Red in Showmanship/Blue in Class,

In the case of more entries qualifying than we have been allotted, placing will determine order, if ties exist using this method they will be broken by using the judging sheets from the qualifying event to determine the qualifying member. These entries will be verified and certified by County Extension staff prior to submission.

These procedures are intended to insure both fairness to the youth members and integrity of the Kittitas County 4-H program in accordance with State and County policy.

The horse shown at the State 4-H Fair must be the same horse shown in the qualifying show and that participated in showmanship at the county level – by the same exhibitor.

In addition to the Kittitas County 4-H State Fair Qualifying Guidelines, Kittitas County will use the following criteria to select State Qualifiers for Performance, Gaming and Harness Divisions.

Kittitas County Requirements:

Submit a Competition for State 4-H Fair intent entry form prior to Kittitas County Junior Horse Fair.

Educational Criteria

- 1) Kittitas County Horse Judging Contest – Top 2 Danish ribbon points from two horse judgments with 3 points possible from each judging for a total of 6 possible points. Danish point system Blue – 3 points; Red – 2 points; White – 1 point.
- 2) Kittitas County Demonstration Contest – 3 possible points using the Danish ribbon point system Blue – 3 points; Red – 2 points; White – 1 point.
- 3) Record Book determined up-to-date in July/Aug by the record book Judging Committee.
- 4) Must have been an active 4-H member and have met the 4-H club's requirements for attendance at club meetings.

Showmanship Criteria

Because showmanship is more heavily weighted and is required for each discipline, each member will have two showmanship opportunities to qualify for State 4-H Fair, those being the Summer Leaders' Show and the Kittitas County Junior Horse Fair. However, in the event that a member is trying to

qualify more than one horse in more than one discipline, an extra showmanship per added discipline will be allowed.

Performance:

- 1) Showmanship ribbon points (refer to following points chart).
- 2) Top 3 scores from performance classes offered at State Fair – Saddle Seat Equitation, Hunter Seat Equitation, Stock Seat Equitation, Dressage, Bareback Equitation, Trail and Equitation Over Fences (refer to following points chart). Top scores will be taken from either of the two shows – Summer Leaders’ Show or the Kittitas County Junior Horse Fair. It is an option that points from one class may be chosen from the Summer Show while other points may come from the Kittitas County Junior Horse Fair for state qualification. In the event of a tie in all accumulated points – performance classes and showmanship – the showmanship points from the Kittitas County Junior Horse Fair will be used as a tiebreaker.
- 3) Highest Showmanship points will break a tie.
- 4) The qualifying show for State Fair will be the Kittitas County Junior Horse Fair.

Western Games:

- 1) Showmanship ribbon points (refer to following points chart).
- 5) Top 4 placings in four different games. Top times taken and tabulated from either of the two shows – the 4-H Gaming Show or Kittitas County Junior Horse Fair. The tabulation will come from those gaming classes, which are offered at State Fair – Texas Barrel Race, Pole Bending, Two Barrel Flag Race, Idaho Figure Eight Stake Race, Pole Key Race and International Flags (refer to following points chart). Must be the same horse/rider combination if riding at both shows. It is an option that points from one class may be chosen from the Gaming Show while other points may come from the Kittitas County Junior Horse Fair for state qualification. In the event of a tie in all accumulated points – Western games classes and showmanship – the showmanship points from the Kittitas County Junior Horse Fair will be used as a tiebreaker.
- 2) Highest Showmanship points will break a tie.

Harness

- 1) Showmanship ribbon points (refer to following points chart).
- 6) Top 2 scores from harness classes offered at State Fair – Reinsmanship, Precision Driving, and Pleasure Driving (refer to following points chart). Top scores will be taken from either of the two shows – Summer Leaders’ Show or the Kittitas County Junior Horse Fair. It is an option that points from one class may be chosen from the Summer Show while other points may come from the Kittitas County Junior Horse Fair for state qualification. In the event of a tie in all accumulated points – harness classes and showmanship – the showmanship points from the Kittitas County Junior Horse Fair will be used as a tiebreaker.
- 2) Highest Showmanship points will break a tie.
- 3) Youth that have qualified and attending State Fair will be required to attend a mandatory meeting on Tuesday following Labor Day Weekend.

Showmanship Points System

Danish Points	
Blue	3 points
Red	2 points
White	1 point

Placing Points	
Grand Champion	12 points
Reserve Champion	11 points
Blue 1 st	10 points
Blue 2 nd	9 points
Blue 3 rd	8 points
Blue 4 th	7 points
Blue 5 th	6 points
Blue 6 th	5 points
Blue 7 th	4 points
Blue 8 th	3 points
Blue 9 th	2 points
Blue 10 th	1 point

Performance and Harness Points System

Danish Points	
Blue	3 points
Red	2 points
White	1 point

Placing Points	
Blue 1 st	10 points
Blue 2 nd	9 points
Blue 3 rd	8 points
Blue 4 th	7 points
Blue 5 th	6 points
Blue 6 th	5 points
Blue 7 th	4 points
Blue 8 th	3 points
Blue 9 th	2 points
Blue 10 th	1 point

Gaming Points System

Danish Points	
Blue	3 points
Red	2 points
White	1 point

Placing Points	
Blue 1 st Fastest Time	10 points
Blue 2 nd Fastest Time	9 points
Blue 3 rd Fastest Time	8 points
Blue 4 th Fastest Time	7 points
Blue 5 th Fastest Time	6 points
Blue 6 th Fastest Time	5 points
Blue 7 th Fastest Time	4 points
Blue 8 th Fastest Time	3 points
Blue 9 th Fastest Time	2 points
Blue 10 th Fastest Time	1 point

KITTITAS COUNTY 4-H JUDGING GUIDELINES

1. Three judgings organized by the judging committee will be held in the spring.
2. Each 4-H member must attend at least two county horse judgings to be eligible to compete at the Kittitas County Junior Horse Fair and complete the 4-H year. If necessary, a member may attend the judging at the Eastern Washington State Horse Show held in Yakima to complete this requirement. Participants from our county shall conduct themselves in a manner which reflects positively on our county and themselves. Failure to do so may result in the Yakima judging being disallowed. Eastern Washington State Horse Show's judging may not be used to qualify for the state judging team or county honors.
3. Premium ribbons, based on the Danish system, for county judging will be awarded on the individuals combined scores of their highest two judgings.
4. All three judgings will have the same number of possible points.
5. To determine final placing in the intermediate and senior divisions, the highest scores of two of the judgings will be added. Individuals that are able to attend only two judgings will have those two judgings totaled. Therefore, it is an advantage to attend all three judgings.
6. The county may send up to 8 members per team to compete at the Washington State 4-H Fair. Only intermediate and senior teams are allowed to compete at the state judging competition.
7. Members of the intermediate and senior teams eligible to judge at state will be selected as follows:
Blue ribbon placing in at least one county judging
Final placing within top blue in age division, alternates will be contacted as space is available.
Must have done one oral reason and one written reason
Must commit to participate at the State 4-H Fair in Puyallup
Must complete two of the three county judgings
8. State judging team members will be asked to sign a letter of intent to compete at state. The letter will give the date of the state judging in September in Puyallup and will outline activities that will be held over the summer to train participants. Participants will be asked for tentative summer schedules so that the judging committee may schedule training sessions that will be well attended. It will be expected that team participants attend all or most of the additional training sessions.
9. To determine the high point judging trophy given at fair, all three scores from the county judgings will be added together.
10. Banners for each age division (novice, junior, intermediate and senior) will be awarded to the individuals who have the highest combined scores of their highest two judgings.
11. Participants are to remember that any talking at the judgings will disqualify them.
12. Oral reasons will be offered at two judgings. Participants should be told that they do not have to do oral reasons. However, participants should realize that they cannot effectively compete for any of the judging honors or the state team if they have not done oral reasons.
13. It is required that judging participants wear closed toes shoes to enter arena for judging, therefore participants without this type of footwear will only be allowed to judge from the bleachers.

ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED FOR 4-H HORSE CLUB MEMBERS

1. Three county judging contests
2. County horse training day(s)
3. Club-sponsored 4-H horse shows
4. County demonstration contests
5. Kittitas County Fair Junior Horse Show
6. Novice Safety Training Day

7. 4-H Leader's open shows

REQUIREMENTS FOR EXHIBITING AT THE KITTITAS COUNTY JUNIOR HORSE FAIR SHOW

1. Must have submitted an up-to-date 4-H Record Book by required date.
2. Must have given a 4-H demonstration during the current 4-H year.
3. Must have been an active 4-H member and have met the 4-H club's requirements for attendance at club meetings.
4. Must have attended and completed at least two Kittitas County 4-H Horse Judging Contests. Scores from the Eastern Washington Show may be used to satisfy one judging.
5. File a horse identification certificate by April 30th of current year.

REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPLETING THE 4-H YEAR

1. Do not miss more than four club meetings per year (Business meeting, not practice or work meetings).
2. Give at least one demonstration in each project area (horse, livestock, home economics, etc).
3. Participate in at least one showmanship in each project area (if none available, participate in a contest or event).
4. Complete a project to leader's satisfaction.
5. Complete a record book prior to fair.
6. Participate in two county horse judging contests.